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[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/garcia/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/garcia/)

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## **Sen. Garcia introduces legislation to increase penalties for right-of-way violators**

**LANSING** – Motorists who do not abide by Michigan right-of-way laws could receive an increased punishment for their violations, according to legislation introduced today by state Sen. Valde Garcia, R-Howell.

Senate Bill 1126 would increase punishment to include a fine and license suspension to those who injure or kill others while violating right-of-way laws, in addition to any criminal charges and fines already in place.

In the past, when a motorist injured someone because of a right-of-way violation, there were no penalties to prohibit the driver from returning to the road. Under this legislation a minimum 30-day suspension will be imposed, with the possibility of fines.

“This bill ensures that motorists who do not obey the rules of the road and end up injuring or killing others receive appropriate punishment for their crimes,” Garcia said. “It defeats the purpose to convict a right-of-way violator and then let them continue to keep their driving privileges.”

The legislation includes penalties as follows:

- If the accident causes injury to the non-violating party, the violator will be subject to a \$200 fine and a suspended license for up to 30 days;
- If the accident causes serious injury to the non-violating party, the violator will be subject to a \$500 fine and a suspended license for up to 90 days. Serious injury includes loss of a limb or use of a limb, loss or substantial impairment of a bodily function, a serious bone fracture, and other major injuries; and
- If the accident causes death to the non-violating party, the violator will be subject to a \$1000 fine and a suspended license for up to one year, but not less than 180 days.

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